

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant :	Udo Klein et al	Art Unit :	2174
Serial No. :	10/675,208	Examiner :	Chris A. Watt
Filed :	September 30, 2003	Conf. No. :	9931
Title :	VARIABLE SIZE INPUT AREAS IN USER INTERFACES		

**MAIL STOP AF**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO ACTION OF FEBRUARY 7, 2007

In response to the final office action of February 7, 2007, applicant asks that all claims be allowed in view of the following remarks. Claims 1-20 are currently pending, of which claims 1 and 13 are independent.

Claims 1-20 have been rejected as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,230,062 (Inaki) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,450,538 (Glaser). Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection because neither Inaki, Glaser, nor any proper combination of the references, describes or suggests the subject matter of independent claims 1 and 13.

Claims 1 and 13 each recite displaying a user input area within a computer user interface. More particularly, claims 1 and 13 recite displaying the user input area that corresponds to a data field having a specified number of characters. The user input area has a size that visually indicates to a user that the user input area will accommodate therein visual representations of the specified number of characters, and, upon receipt of a user input specifying a character to be included in the data field, displaying within the user input area a visual representation of the input character in a proportional font. Claims 1 and 13 also recite adjusting the size of the user input area based on a size of characters included in the data field and the specified number of characters of the data field, where the size of characters included in the data field includes a size of the input character. Claims 1 and 13 further recite displaying the adjusted user input area having a new size that visually indicates to the user that the user input area will accommodate therein visual representations of a remaining number of the specified number of characters of the data field.